

The BoarsTale...Online

A Publication of Headquarters, Georgia Air National Guard, Dobbins ARB, GA August 2000

Commanders' Column

Command Chief Pearson Deloach

RETENTION...Are the Game Rules Fair and Outdated?

By now, you've seen the headlines and heard the broadcasts. "Retention is the key to the future of the Reserves." Additionally, "Retaining Enlisted Personnel is a Major Challenge."



What is behind these statements and why the drop in the retention rates?

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that phrases like, "Life is great, It's good to be the King" and "If things got any better I'd die, are not encouraging statements to our National Guard forces. What do these phrases mean to people? They simply mean (a) I have more time to spend with my family, (b) I'm making more money than I ever could have imagined, (c) I'm working less time and taking home more, and (d) I just don't need a part-time job that would take me away from home right now."

As we hear these statements daily, why then is it any surprise that officers and enlisted personnel are leaving all branches of the military in masses for the so called "Good Times". All of us know that we can't blame them for seeing the best paying job and wanting the vest for their families! Here it is plain and simple, "Houston, we have a problem"!

In the last three months as your new CCMS, I have had the pleasure of meeting hundreds of GAANG men and women and had the opportunity to see first hand the operation of many of our GAANG wings, squadrons and GSUs. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and freedom-loving group of people serving the State of Georgia.

During our staff visits, I always like to ask for input from our members concerning the retention problem. I have received an earful...thanks very much!

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Weekend UTA Schedule

Saturday

0645 Formation
0700 Joint Staff Meeting (Officers & Enlisted)
1100 Lunch
1530 Release

Sunday

0645 Formation
0700 Chapel Service
0800 Promotion Boards Convene
1100 Lunch
1530 Release

ANG News from the Field:

"MEMPHIS BELLE" SHARES FAMOUS NAME AND HERITAGE WITH GEORGIA B-1

The "Memphis Belle", the legendary WWII B-17 bomber credited with more than 25 combat missions over Europe now shares its famous name and proud heritage with its 21st century successor, a B-1B bomber of the 116th Bomb Wing of the Georgia National Guard

Georgia's B-1 "Memphis Belle" was dedicated July 28 at Robins Air Force Base. On this historic occasion, the Georgia B-1 received not only the name of the infamous WWII bomber, but the unique noseart design from the original "Memphis Belle".

"This was an exciting event for the Bomb Wing as we became linked with the remarkable heritage of this aircraft," said Colonel Tom Lynn, 116th Bomb Wing Commander.

Colonel (Ret.) Robert Morgan, who commanded the original "Belle" through daring aerial combat missions in Europe, dedicated the Georgia Guard's "Memphis Belle". The B-17 used in the 1991 film by the same name was flown in specifically for the dedication ceremony. "I am extremely proud that the name of the "Belle" will be shared with this great aircraft," said Morgan before being escorted by Col Lynn to the B-1 where he autographed the unique the

Georgia National Guard To Expand Youth Challenge Academy to Augusta

Governor Roy Barnes and Major General David B. Poythress, announced the creation of a second campus for Georgia's Youth Challenge Academy. The new facility will be located on Ft. Gordon, near Augusta, and will significantly expand the highly successful program from its current location on Ft. Stewart.

"Youth Challenge continues to be a program that changes lives of many of Georgia's youth," said General Poythress. "This is a wonderful opportunity. We are extremely pleased to be able to expand the program and to provide this second opportunity for more young Georgians to succeed."

The new, second campus will be ready for its initial class on September 24. It will house 140 students, which will be in addition to 260 students attending the academy at the Ft. Stewart location. Each of the campuses operates two 22-week classes each year.

"This expansion was made possible by a lot of hard work and cooperation by the state legislative delegation from the Augusta area as well as officials at Ft. Gordon," said General Poythress. The cost of the expansion is \$2.4 million, which is being funded by matching state and federal dollars.

With the addition of a second campus, Georgia becomes only the second state in the nation to operate two Youth Challenge locations. "The Challenge program at Fort Stewart has been one of the most successful in the country," said General Poythress. "It is clear that this achievement has contributed greatly our ability to add a second location."

Georgia's Academy is one of twenty-eight similar National Guard youth programs throughout the country. It began operations at Fort Stewart in 1993 and has graduated more than 2,200 cadets in 14 classes.

Air Guard Represented at Coverdell Funeral

Eleven Georgia Air Guardsmen were among twenty Guardsmen who participated in the funeral detail for Senator Paul Coverdell. The Air Guardsmen who participated were Major Kim Chatfield, MSG Peter Olsson, TSGT James Ellis from the 116BW, TSGT Robin D. Jumonville and SSGT Mark R. Jumonville, MST Alton Martin of the 165AW and SSGT Christine Strauch, MSGT Daniel R. Whittle and SSGT Scott C. Dougherty of the 202nd.

Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain's Corner
By Clint Smith

Obedience from the Heart

Horses are beautiful animals. Yet they can be stubborn and difficult to train. Some people have an amazing ability to train horses. Many varied techniques have been employed. Recent attention has been focused on the 'Horse Whisperer' method of training. Instilling obedience is a difficult and elusive goal to reach with animals.

With the possible exception of some dogs, obedience in animals is reached absent of any emotional attachment. However, as human beings, our motivation to be obedient is more personal. Successful parents begin to instill obedience and discipline in children as soon as possible. In our orderly society, citizens are expected to be obedient to the laws that our elected representatives enact. And, of course, as members of the military, obedience to the command structure and our mission is fundamentally important.

In Psalm 32:9, God commanded, "Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which has no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you." The psalm calls on us to demonstrate obedience to God that is motivated by a sincere desire to develop a strong relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Service to God that is motivated from the heart will be characterized by trust, faith and true obedience. That should be our goal.

Chapel Service: Sunday, 20 August at 0700 hrs in the base chapel

Happy Birthday

Capt Andre Campbell	17 Aug
SMSgt Eric Hill	6 Aug
Col Scott Hammond	24 Aug

ANG News from the Field (con't from Pg 1)

"Petty Girl" noseart. Last year Col Morgan received an orientation flight in the B-1.

Both the B-17 and the giant B-1 aircraft conducted flybys before the excited audience prior to landing and taxiing into position for the dedication ceremony.

Walk-Run Make-Up Date Set

The makeup date for the HQ Walk-Run is scheduled for Saturday, 16 Sept 2000. The Walk-Run will be followed by the HQ's Family Picnic. The following HQ personnel are scheduled to participate in this event:

Bowers	Browder	Baldowski
Burson	Cephus-Gantt	Davis, J
Colbert	Jones	DeLoach
Oldfield	Gills	Peno
Hays	Searcy	Weber
Hill	Inge	Pinkney
Poole	Smiley-James	

ANG Senior Commanders' Conference
Dobbins ARB
25-26 August

HQ Master Training Schedule for FY/CY 01

Jan 20-21	Feb 10-11
Mar 24-25	Apr 21-22
May 19-20	Jun 23-24
Jul 21-22	Aug 18-19
Sep 22-23	Oct 20-21
Nov 17-18	Dec 08-09

AUGUST PROMOTION BOARD

Enlisted Board President:
Lt Col Mike Daniel

ANG News from the Field (con't)

Colonel Morgan also presented the 116th Bomb Wing with a commemorative piece of metal from the wing of the original "Memphis Belle" that will be mounted in the cockpit of the B-1 bearing its name.



165th Returns from ATSO Deployment

Savannah's 165th returned from a deployment (27 - 30 Jul) to Volk Field CRTC WI for an intense Chemical warfare training exercise. Volk Field the home of "Readiness Safeguard," a training chemical training exercise for which units can evaluate their chemical readiness. A 50-person advanced detachment (ADVON) left two days early to sign out the CRTC and harden the base for defending against simulated attack.

Approximately 400 personnel participated in the four -day deployment. Part of this 400 were about 50 members of the 105 Airlift Wing, a C-5 unit from Stewart, N.Y. The exercise trained personnel in "ATSO," Ability to Survive and Operate in a Chemical warfare environment. The exercise involved air attacks, terrorist penetrations, snipers, protesters, and many simulated casualties requiring us to demonstrate Self Aid and Buddy Care.

TAG Announces Organizational Changes at DOD

The Adjutant General recently announced several organizational changes within the GA DOD.

The Director of Facilities (CFMO-Colonel Ricky Stephens) will now report directly to the Adjutant General. The Chief of State Financial Management (Mr. Ross Fralick) will now report directly to the Adjutant General.

A new state position, "Chief Information Officer" has been created and will be held by Mr. Jack Jolin. He will manage the DOIM and oversee the coordination/integration of all DOD IT activities. Mr. Jolin will report directly to the Adjutant General.

The Directorate of Strategic Resource Management (DSRM), as an organizational element, is abolished.

The Strategic Management and Innovation Division is redesignated the Organizational Development Office under the direction of COL (Ret) George Smith. COL (Ret) Smith will report directly to the Adjutant General.

A Sparkle for your Health

In The Heat of the Summer

As a young lad I worked on our farm doing physical labor all summer long. Those were long, hot hours. My Dad and I would mow, rake and bale hay, stack it hay barns, some 20 feet tall and sell the hay during the winter. We would go from field to field. Good work and hard. In particular, the loading of the bales of hay on trucks and then stacking them in the barns was my job. I learned about heat stress in a personal way. I sometimes saw farm helpers “fall out” from getting too hot. We used to call it “seeing the monkey” when someone got so hot that they just started wandering, stumbling off across the field, and when we would run to go get them they were like a walking zombie. We would drag them in the shade, fan them and pour ice water over and into them.

Now, however, my exposure to the Georgia summer heat is going from my office to the car in the afternoons, and working in my yard on the weekends, or doing my jogging each week. And frankly, like many of you, I don’t enjoy or tolerate the summer heat as I once did as a young boy.

How do we cope? How can we learn to adapt to the summer heat and be safe? With some wisdom and preparation you can.

First, prepare yourself for the heat of the summer. Do so by continuing physical activities throughout the spring into the summer. Spring with each week getting a little warmer, give you time to acclimate yourself to the summer’s heat. For example, I like to jog, and I do so during my lunch hour. I find that if I keep up this routine that by July and August I can still do my couple of miles in 95 degrees, 95% humidity. Yet, it takes longer to cool down, but by building up my heat tolerance, I can enjoy my weekend activities even during the hot days of summer.

Second, as a good Guardsman, we have learned to hydrate, hydrate and hydrate. Water is the essence of survivability and prevent of heat related problems such as dehydration, heat stress and heat stroke. Drink plenty of water, and do so before your begin your heat exposed exertions.

Third, protect your skin. Wear proper clothes- broad brimmed, ventilated hats and loose, light clothes. Sunscreen exposed areas when necessary.

Finally, as an aside, protect your eyes with sunglasses. The reason that each of us will one day have cataract surgery is from our lifetime of damaging exposure to ultraviolet rays in the sunny south

Keep a sparkle in your summer activities. Be safe and enjoy.

Commander’s Column (continued from Pg 1)

Let me share with you a statement and a question posed to me last month during one of our visits that indicates to me a real urgent need for overhauling the present rules and laws that govern the modern day Reserves.

(GA ANG E-5, Pending Separation- Wife and two kids) “I served all over the worked all over the world while in the active military. I wanted to further my education and my career on a part-time basis through the GA ANG, and I felt I contributed right away using the skills I have learned from the USAF. But really I was close to home and I didn’t want any more traveling. I could see the writing on the wall, and that weighted heavy in my decision to separate and seek new employment. Besides, why on earth would I put a civilian career in jeopardy by having to go overseas again for ninety to one hundred eighty days like those Army guys have to do?”

The sergeant was also asked in the interview if he was affiliated in any way with the National Guard or Reserves? The staff sergeant had to explain that he was prior service and presently in the Guard, “however, I will get out of the Guard if I can secure this position.” **True Story!**

So, as we gaze upon the scoreboard after the first half of play in the game of retention, we are losing, but there is a second half left to play. In order to win this half the Guard must insist on fairness and move up to date rules which will protect the National Guard soldiers and airmen on both their civilian and military jobs. Incentives to Guard employers as well as the Guard members and families should be explored. An employer must be shown that his/her business will be compensated and will not suffer if a Guard member is asked to deploy on short notice.

The National Guard leadership today must be aggressive, up-front, honest and always mindful that when the above quest and other like it can be answered, then the playing field will be considered fair and leveled. Until then, we will continue to train Guard personnel for top civilian jobs. In my humble opinion, the Guard is playing fair and showing good sportsmanship in the job market. I am not sure that the civilian job market is doing the same.

